

## BEACH WITNESS BADLY TANGLED

Physician Helpless Under Cross-Examination of Prosecutor.

## HE SWEARS KNIFE SHOWED NO BLOOD

Four Witnesses Put on Stand by  
Defense — To-Day Defendant  
and Wife Will Testify in Ef-  
fort to Free Millionaire  
From Charge of At-  
tempt to Kill.

Aiken, S. C., February 5.—Frederick O. Beach will take the stand in his own defense when his trial on the charge of assaulting his wife is resumed here to-morrow. This was the plan outlined by the defense at the close of court to-day.

It also is proposed to have Mrs. Beach follow the accused New Yorker as a witness. Since the assault upon her was committed in the yard of the Beach cottage here on the night of February 26 last, the story told by Beach and his wife has never varied. Both have maintained that Mrs. Beach was attacked by an unknown negro when she left the house to give her dogs an airing.

To-day the State rested its case, which consisted almost entirely of an attack on the plausibility of Beach's story. The introduction of Beach's jeweled penknife, upon which one of the State's witnesses claimed to have found traces of blood corpuscles, was held by the prosecution until the last. It had been anticipated by the attorneys for the defense, and they were prepared to meet expert testimony

with expert testimony, even to the extent of presenting a witness who had examined the knife and had failed, as he swore to find any blood cells.

**Four Witnesses for Defense.**

Four of the defense witnesses were examined during the afternoon session of the court, and the testimony of all of them concerned the knife.

Dr. D. Hastings Wyman, Jr., the third physician of the same family to appear as a witness, testified at the

morning session that he had made a microscopic examination of the knife at the request of Mayor Giles, and had found traces of blood. Later he said he took the knife to Augusta and submitted it to Dr. C. D. Partridge, professor of microscopics of the University of Georgia, who, he claimed, refused to express an opinion as to the presence of blood.

Then he went to Columbia and ob-

tained a written opinion there from Hoykin Mims, an analyst, that there was blood on the knife. When the prosecutor announced at the opening of the afternoon session that the State had presented its case, the defense immediately offered Dr. Partridge as a witness. Dr. Partridge testified that he had examined the knife and had informed Dr. Wyman that there was no blood there. He gave the jury a very

technical explanation of the manner in which he had made his examination, and was making a very good witness for the defense until Prosecutor Gunter, a master at the art of cross-examination, got hold of him and began subjecting him to a merciless "third degree." Immediately he became so confused that he was unable to answer, without long hesitation, questions on the subject on which he had made a

"Didn't you refuse to put the result of your examination down in writing?" demanded the prosecutor. The witness didn't answer.

"Didn't you?" There was a titter through the courtroom when the witness continued to remain silent. Finally he said that he did not wish to make a written report.

"You were afraid it would fall in

"No, I was unbiased—at that time."  
"But you have become biased since then, haven't you?"  
"No."  
Dr. Partridge again became tangled when the prosecutor questioned him about his direct testimony that the knife had no broken blade when he examined it.  
"Will you swear that the knife had

Witness hesitated.  
"No, I don't think I can swear to it."  
"But you did just now," prodded the prosecutor.  
Witness remained silent for a long time.

**Wyman Denies Statement.**  
"I think it safe to leave out the other blade," he then declared amid

laughter. On his direct examination Dr. Partridge said that Dr. Wyman brought the knife to him on the morning of March 29, with a request for an early report because he "wanted to stop a man going out of town, who was going to leave at 3." Dr. Wyman on cross-examination had denied making any such statement.

Expert testimony was given for the defense by Dr. T. E. Bertell of Au-

"Can you find flaws in the technique used by Dr. Wyman?" asked Attorney Muller, of the defense.

Dr. Dertell said that he had made an experiment on the body of a negro similar knife infliction, and

The prosecutor began on the witness this way:

"So you took a dead negro and tried to break off the knife in his neck?"

"I did."

"Did he struggle?"

The answer was lost in the laughter.

"It might, but the wound would be a jagged one," replied the witness.

**Family Physician Testifies.**

The Beach family physician, Dr. C. D. Hall, testified that he was called to